Nov 1975

The MESSENGER

THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

St. Stephen's, Milnrow & Littleborough

MILNROW DIARY

November

Sun.	2nd	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament
Mon.	3rd	6.30 pm.	Pilots (& each Monday)
		8.15 pm.	Efforts Committee Meeting
Tues.	4th	7.30 pm.	Women Guild
Wed.	5th	2.00 pm.	Young Mums Group (& each Wednesdays)
		7.30 pm.	Whist Drive (& each Wednesday)
Fri.	7th	7.30 pm.	District Meeting at St.Stephen's
Sun.	9th	11.00 am.	Mrs. M. Jeffrey
		6.00 pm.	Mr. A. Roberts
Wed.	12th	7.30 pm.	Elders Meeting
Sat.	15th	3.00 pm.	Mini Market - (See page 6)
Sun.	16th	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
Wed.	19th	7.30 pm.	Junior Church Staff Meeting
Sun.	23rd	11.00 am.	Young People
		6.00 pm.	Rev. A. Nash
Wed.	26th	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting
Sun.	30th	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	"

December

Tues.	2nd	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild Christmas Party
Fri.	5th	7.30 pm.	District Meeting
Sat.	6th	7.30 pm.	Family Church Dance
Sun.	7th	11.00 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	Service of Word & Sacrament

****

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Nov.	2nd	Miss A. Memory	
	9th	Mrs. M. Howarth	Mrs. M. Mellor
	16th	Mrs. M. Brocklehurst	
	23rd	Mrs. D. Whan	Mrs. D. Hanson
	30th	Mrs. D. Emmott	
Dec.	7th	Mrs. J. Calow	Mrs. Clowes

LITTLEBOROUGH DIARY

November

Sat.	1st	7.15 p.m.	Family Social & Fancy Dress
Sun.	2nd	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord
Wed.	5th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	9th	10.30 am.	Rev. A. Nash
		6.00 pm.	"
Tues.	11th	7.30 pm.	Women's Guild: Birthday Supper
			NOTE CHANGE OF DATE
Wed.	12th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	16th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Nash
Wed.	19th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sat.	22nd	3.00 pm.	AUTUMN FIAR -
			Opener: Mr. A. Clegg of Milnrow
Sun.	23rd	10.30 am.	Rev. A. Nash
Thur.	27th	7.30 pm.	Men's Fellowship:
			Rev. Darnbrough.
Wed.	26th	6.45 pm.	Pilots
Sun.	30th	10.30 am.	Mrs. Nash

December

Mon.	1st	7.30 pm.	Church Meeting
Sun.	7th	10.30 am.	Mr. J. Lord - Toy Service

****

FLOWERS FOR COMMUNION TABLE

Nov. 2nd	Mrs. Greenwood
9th	Mr. Worthington
16th	Mrs. J. Lord
23rd	Mrs. Clayton
30th	Mrs. E. Holt
Dec. 7th	Mrs. J.A. Leach

****

From the Manse

November 1975

My dear friends,

The 1976 Prayer Fellowship Handbook has just become available. The title is a question: "By What Power?" and the whole book centres upon a variety of questions, such as "Why do you call me Lord"; "Why are you asleep?"; "How describe this generation?" and "What do you want?" - being but a few of the thought provoking headings.

We live in an age that is increasihgly asking questions and it is good that this is so. We who are Christians should be doing likewise about the central facts of our faith and the quality of our faith, not only for our own understanding but so that we can give an answer to any who might ask.

The foreword to the handbook puts this question to us, "By what power do you and I, the followers of Jesus today, live?" It is a good question. When you awoke this morning and found it was raining and dark and before you lay a day that you knew was going to contain difficulties and problems of various kinds - by what power are you encouraged to face it? You are a Christian, and as such have to make a stand on issues that other folk are not required to make a stand about. By what power are you made able to stand firm? You are in a situation that requires sacrifices to be made, and Christians are always being asked to make sacrifices of one kind or another - by what power are you able to accept it? A Christian is expected to set all their life under the guidance of Christ. By what power are we enabled to do so.

The question of what motivates us is very important for in determining what it is we discover whether in fact we are being moved by God's Spirit or by some other more worldly or self-interested

reason. "No one can serve two masters," said Jesus; and knowing for ourselves by what power we are motivated will help us to know whether we stand with Him or not.

May God bless you all.

Your sincere friend,

ALFRED NASH

Thought for the month:

"Christ came into the world - the world he had created - and the world failed to recognise him. He came into his own creation, and his own people would not accept him. Yet wherever men did accept him he gave them the power to become sons of God".

.....The Gospel of John Chapter 1: v. 10 - 12.
(J.B. Phillip's translation)

++

You are cordially invited to our annual.....

FAMILY CHURCH DANCE

on

SATURDAY, 6th December

Dancing to the BILL DUNCAN TRIO

from 7 - 11 p.m.

Admission: Adults & Children 35p each
(Including refreshments)

....at St. Stephens

******

MINI MARKET AT MILNROW

Saturday, 15th November at 3.0 p.m.

Opener: Counc. T. DUFFY

Chairman: Mr. I. ROYLE

All manner of stalls - Not to be missed

CAKES & REFRESHMENTS	(Ladies Guild & Mrs. Kay)
BOOKS	(Mrs, K. Reed & Seniors)
HANDICRAFTS	(Mrs. Starkie)
GROCERIES	(Mrs. Nash)
SWEETS	(Pilots)
PLANTS	(Mrs. H. Mellor)

to say nothing of.....

MYSTERY PARCELS & CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS (Young Mums & Mrs. C. Hey)

GAMES & SIDE SHOWS (Young People & Mr. Gillon)

——This event needs your support——

Come & buy Come & help

Admission: Adults & Children 5p each

Donations of goods for the above stalls should go to the persons mentioned in brackets.

P.S. With apologies to Cynthia. We are not suggesting you are not a Young Mum. Sorry Ron, we would like to say the same to you but you know how it is.....

STILL BUILDING

Just in case there is anyone who doesn't know, the Young Mums meet every Wednesday in the Pennine Room at 2 pm. Children under school age are cared for in the creche and if you can assist in that way once in a while we would welcome your help most sincerely. Mention the fact to Mrs. Nash.

The Young Mums are having another "Build Up" meeting for Mums and Spouses at 6 Shorefield Close, the home of Mr. & Mrs. Sharples, at 7.45 pm., on Tuesday, 18th Nov. We look forward to seeing you both.

LADIES IN INTERNATIONAL BID

The Ladies Guild have been doing a fair amount of lively activity this month. During "Outreach Week" they held a Missionary Evening in which various members dressed-up, made China Tea (ugh?), performed magnificent feats of memory or imagination as women from the Carribean, India, Hong Kong and Japan. As part of the evening's entertainment there was also an exceptionally good film strip on missionary work, which came from CWM. and was most thought provoking.

Not content with one major evening the Guild have also attended a district rally at Denton, and a local rally at the Salvation Army, Shaw.

They have also had a fascinating Auction in which Mrs. Gillon efficiently wielded her hammer with devastating effect. The results being £35.50.

Fireworks are confidently predicted at our next meeting on the 4th November and there will be a Ladies Guild Committee meeting to work out further treats on Thursday, November 6th at 7.30 pm., in the Manse.

*****

WATCH THE PENNIES RISING

Don not forget about the "Penny-a-day" scheme which runs until January 18th.

Is it possible for you to persuade someone else to join in?

****

GUEST SERVICE

Sunday Evening of November 16th will be "Guest Service" followed by Fellowship Hour in the school-room. This is an added opportunity for you to bring others in to share with us in the fellowship enjoyed in God's House.

OUTREACH IN RETROSPECT

Looking back as one who participated in every event except the Sunday mornings (I was conducting worship elsewhere at those times) during the recent "Outreach Week" held at St. Stephen's, I cannot help but feel somewhat disappointed at the lack of enthusiasm shown by many. Yet in spite of this, I cannot help but thank God for that week. Much was learned; questions were asked, answers were given. There was much thought, much time, many sacrifices of one kind or another, to say nothing of the constant prayers which were offered up. Every event, from start to finish was a time which should not have been missed for each was a time of upliftment and joy. I say we should praise God for what was achieved and for those who gave of time and talent.

It has been said, "The week was a flop". I would challenge this. Can anything undertaken in God's name - under his guidance - be a flop? God works in a mysterious way, his wonders to perform and although no success be apparent, that is not to say that nothing will come out of "Outreach Week".

One thing we, as Christ's people, can learn is that we need to reach out to him first. To be daily tuned in to his will; to be more alive and alert; to be more willing to give of ourselves and to reach out to those around and speak boldly of our Lord and Saviour. Surely, as his followers, we want others to know of Him!

Personally, I'm glad we had that week; that the thought was received from God; that the preparations were made; that the events were undertaken. I say let us be thankful for this opportunity and remember Christians elsewhere who would love to be free enough to partake in such a week. Let us thank God and go forward trusting in Him for all future days.

(Contributed by Mrs. Maud Nash
- but slightly abridged)

OUTREACHING

They say "Outreach" is what we teach
A hand is suggested, but to what does it reach?

Not the bloodstained hand to shoot or stab
Nor the fingers bent hand to beg or grab,
But the hand that calms and reconciles,
That helps fear and anger to blossom to smiles.

The straight hand that shakes to show you're a friend,
A hand with firm skill to cure or to mend,
The open hand that gives and waves the cost,
The warm hand that comforts when all is lost.

But look to your hand as it goes on its way,
Put the other one with it and then you can pray,
And ask the Good Lord at Matins and vesper,
That when you outreach it is more than a gesture.

****

WHICH INSECT?

Here is another competition for children between the ages of 8 and 10:

1. Which insect conceals its eggs in a tiny wax cell?
2. When the eggs hatch the grubs are fed on a mixture of water, honey and what substance?
3. What insect finally emerges into a hive after the grub has slept in a cocoon for several days?
4. What else can you say of interest about this insect?

Contestants are asked to submit their entries to the Manse before 16th November.

Last month's competition won a book token each for Mrs. Kathleen Hill of Littleborough, Mrs.Edith Gillon and Linda Mann of Milnrow....Congratulations!

The correct pairs of Fathers & Sons were: Jesse & David; Adam & Seth; Saul & Jonathan; Enoch & Methuselah; Abraham & Isaac; Noah & Ham; Kish & Saul; Elkanah & Samuel; David & Absalom; Nun & Joshua.

MY PRAYER

I thank Thee, Lord, for Thy great gift,
Another morn to see.
My prayer be this - that if I live
The day be spent for Thee.

May I do naught to thwart Thy will,
But seek in evry way
To do what Thou woulds't have me do
Throughout the livelong day.

May I, when eventide arrives,
Bring back the day to Thee?
Filled to the brim with deeds of love,
Kindness and Charity,

My tasks well done - at eventide -
I then can rest in peace,
Knowing that Thou wilt bless it all,
I can from labour cease.

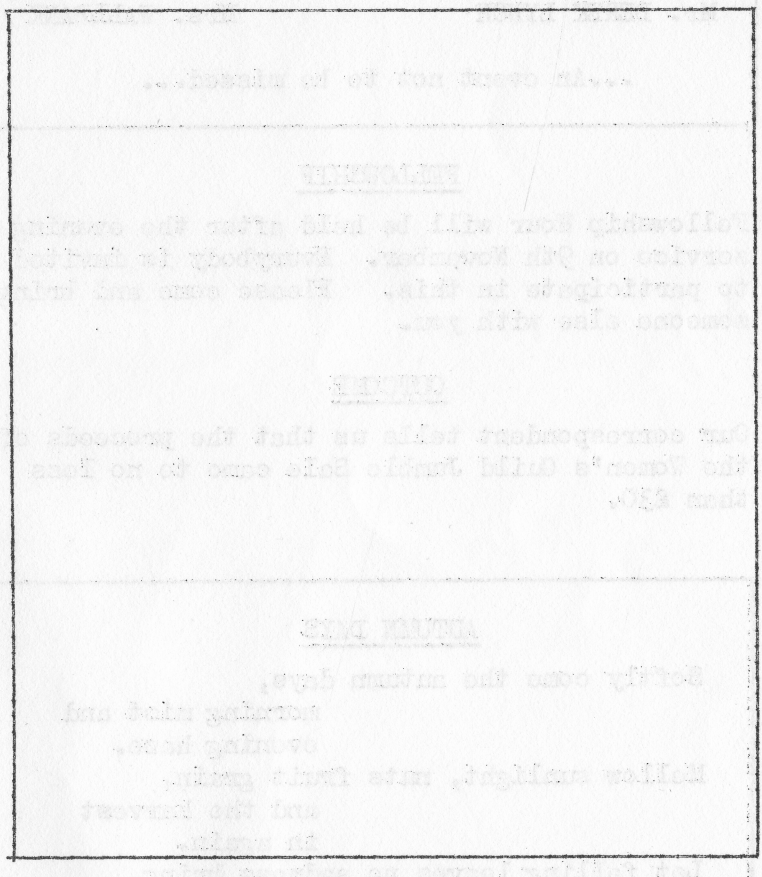
And when the Day of Life is done
And Deathly Night doth fall,
If I can hear Thee say "Well Done,"
Then sweet will be the call.

.....Margaret H. Hancock
(From a collection of Uncommon Prayers)

APOLOGY

The Editor apologises for not being able to get this month's "Messenger" out on time to include the announcement about the Family Social on November 1st at Littleborough. It is, however, very difficult to produce a magazine at all when so few contributions are received.
Have you ever thought of submitting something?

WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR CHURCH?



A space is provided for YOU to provide an answer.

AUTUMN FAIR AT LITTLEBOROUGH

SATURDAY, 22nd November at 3.0 p.m.

Chairman: Mr. ARTHUR CLEGG

Opener: Mrs. MAUD NASH

Soloist: Mr. DEREK LYNCH

Organist: Mrs. WALLBANK

...An event not to be missed...

FELLOWSHIP

Fellowship Hour will be held after the evening service on 9th November. Everybody is invited to participate in this. Please come and bring someone else with you.

OUTCOME

Our correspondent tells us that the proceeds of the Women's Guild Jumble Sale came to no less than £30.

AUTUMN DAYS

Softly come the autumn days,
morning mist and
evening haze.
Mellow sunlight, nuts fruit grain,
and the harvest
in again.
Let falling leaves no sadness bring,
God will send another Spring.

Patience Strong

PLENTY OF BEANS

A Chinaman coming to Littleborough during the last month might have been forgiven for thinking it was the Month of the Coffee-bean for so much seems to have been drunk that one wonders that the place is not filled with insomniacs. In the first week of the month there was a Coffee Evening and Children's Wear fashion party to raise funds for the Autumn Fair Refreshment Stall. In the second week there was a Coffee Evening and Bring and Buy stall to raise funds for the Autumn Fair Tea Room. For a change in the third week there was a Coffee Evening and a display of Scottish Counctry Dancing given by the Littleborough Scottish Country Dancing Troupe.

It's rather difficult for amateur journalists to make exciting news out of such events but we hope that everyone enjoyed the coffee because they would be in for a miserable time if they didn't. It was, however, very interesting to see that the Dancing Troupe contained one of our own Busy Bees - Mrs. Spinks, and several members of Junior Church among the "star performers".

IN FOR A PENNY - IN FOR A POUND

First the pennies. Are you saving your penny a day to make a pound by December 21st? Start now before it's too late.

Now the pounds. We understand that Mrs. Grindrod would be pleased to receive donations of goods to the ppund stall and also gifts of home made cakes for those who don't mind encouraging people to put pounds on by buying from the Refreshment Stall.

PEARLS OF SMALL PRICE

Do you know that you can purchase a Prayer Fellowship Handbook from Mr. Simpson for only 15p?.....
.....So why not do so.

CHURCH DUTIES - LITTLEBOROUGH

DOOR STEWARDS

Nov. 2nd	Mr. J. Nairn	Mr. J. Hill	
9th	Mr. R. Mullins	Mr. F. Beattie	a.m.
	Mrs. Stott	Mr. E. Holt	p.m.
16th	Mrs. Crossley	Mr. J. Nairn	
23rd	Mr. J. Holt	Mr. H.N. Hill	
30th	Mr. J. Hill	Mr. J. Lord	
Dec. 7th	Mrs. Stott	Mr. E. Holt	

ELDERS COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 9th	Mr. J. Lord	Mr. Simpson	p.m.
23rd	Mr. Beattie	Mr. Nairn	p.m.

ORGANIST/PIANIST

		p.m.
Nov. 2nd	Mrs. M. Hill	
9th	Miss L. Morrick	Mrs. M. Hill
16th	Mrs. Cockcroft	
23rd	Miss L. Morrick	
30th	Mrs. M. Hill	

COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 2nd	P. Millins	A. Merrick
9th	S. Moss	K. Hill
16th	J. Law	W. Law
23rd	A. Wall	P. Wall
30th	W. Spinks	J. Hobbs
Dec. 7th	J. Simpson	B. Holt

FAMILY CHURCH READINGS

Nov. 2nd	Romans 1: 18 - 25	P. Lightfoot
9th	2 Kings 4: 8 - 17	M. G. Hill
16th	John 15: 1 - 15	M. Law
23rd	Luke 19: 11 - 27	M. Grindrod
30th	Isaiah 11: 1 - 9	K. Hill
Dec. 7th	Luke 1: 26 - 38	H. Vincent

CHURCH DUTIES - MILNROW

FAMILY CHURCH DOOR STEWARDS

Nov. 2nd	M. G. Buckley	Mr. A. Rae
9th	Mrs. J. Duffy	Mrs. A. Baines
16th	Mrs. M. Holden	Mr. A. Sharples
23rd	Mr. H. Mellor	Mrs. F. Butterworth
30th	Mr. J. Harrison	Mr. I. Royle
Dec. 7th	Mr. J. Collins	

ELDERS ROTA EVENING DOOR STEWARDS	DUTY ELDER	ORGANIST/PIANIST EVENING WORSHIP
November		
2nd Mr. K. Hey	Mrs.N.Settle	Mr. D. Logan
9th Mr. B. Clough	Mr. R. Gillon	Mrs.E. Starkie
16th Miss M. Wood	Mrs. E.Gillon	Mrs.C.Bradbury
23rd Mr. R. Gillon	Miss M. Wood	Mr. J. Emmott
30th Mrs.N. Settle	Mr. B. Clough	-
Dec.7 Mrs.E. Gillon	Mr. A. Roberts	Mr. D. Logan

COMMUNION ROTA

Nov. 2nd	Mr. A. Roberts	Mrs. E. Gillon
Dec. 7th	Mr. B. Clough	Mr. J. Emmott

FAMILY CHURCH COFFEE ROTA

Nov. 2nd	Mrs. A. Wood	
9th	Mrs. H. Whitehead	Mrs. Greenhalgh
16th	Mrs. E. Garside	Mrs. J. Calow
23rd	Mrs. C. Hey	Mrs. M. Mellor
30th	Mrs. J. Munday	Mrs. M. Ogden
Dec. 7th	Mrs. J. Cudworth	Mrs. N. Settle

Persons unable to take their appointments as listed are expected to find a suitable substitute.

OFFERTORIES

	Cash am.	Cash pm.	Envelopes	Total
Sept.	£30.49	£9.00	£74.31	£113.80